

Mansfield Open Space and Recreation Plan Process



What is an Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP)

A document that describes a community's open space and recreation resources



It is also a blueprint for action for open space and recreation stakeholders in a community

Conservation
Commission

Parks
Commission

Cemetery
Commission

Planning
Board

Local
Citizens

Why have an OSRP?



Collect Data



**Learn about community
priorities**



**Protect & Manage existing open
spaces**



**Acquire funding
from the state**

Required OSRP Sections

Section 1 – Plan
Summary

Section 2 –
Introduction

Section 3 –
Community Setting

Section 4 –
Environmental
Inventory and
Analysis

Section 5 – Inventory
of Lands of
Conservation and
Recreation Interest

Section 6 –
Community Vision

Section 7 – Analysis
of Needs

Section 8 – Goals
and Objectives

Section 9 – Seven-
year Action Plan

Section 10 – Public
Comment

Section 11 -
References

OSRP Process



1. Develop a Steering Committee.

2. Evaluate previous plan for completed actions.

3. Conduct a public workshop and outreach.

4. Summarize public input and create action items.

5. Draft plan.

6. Present results in second public workshop

7. Submit plan to the state.

Planning for Dynamic Changes – Temperature and Precipitation

Climate Change Predictions for 2050 in Narragansett Bay



6 to 26 additional days
per year over 90°F



30 to 55 fewer days
per year below 32°F



-4.3 to 21.5% increase
in total annual
precipitation



8.1 to 18.6% increase
in max daily
precipitation



Changed Local and Global Context



Natural Lands for Resiliency

Carbon sequestration

Clean air and water

Food

Flood prevention

Habitat

Tourism

Recreation

Public health

Property Values

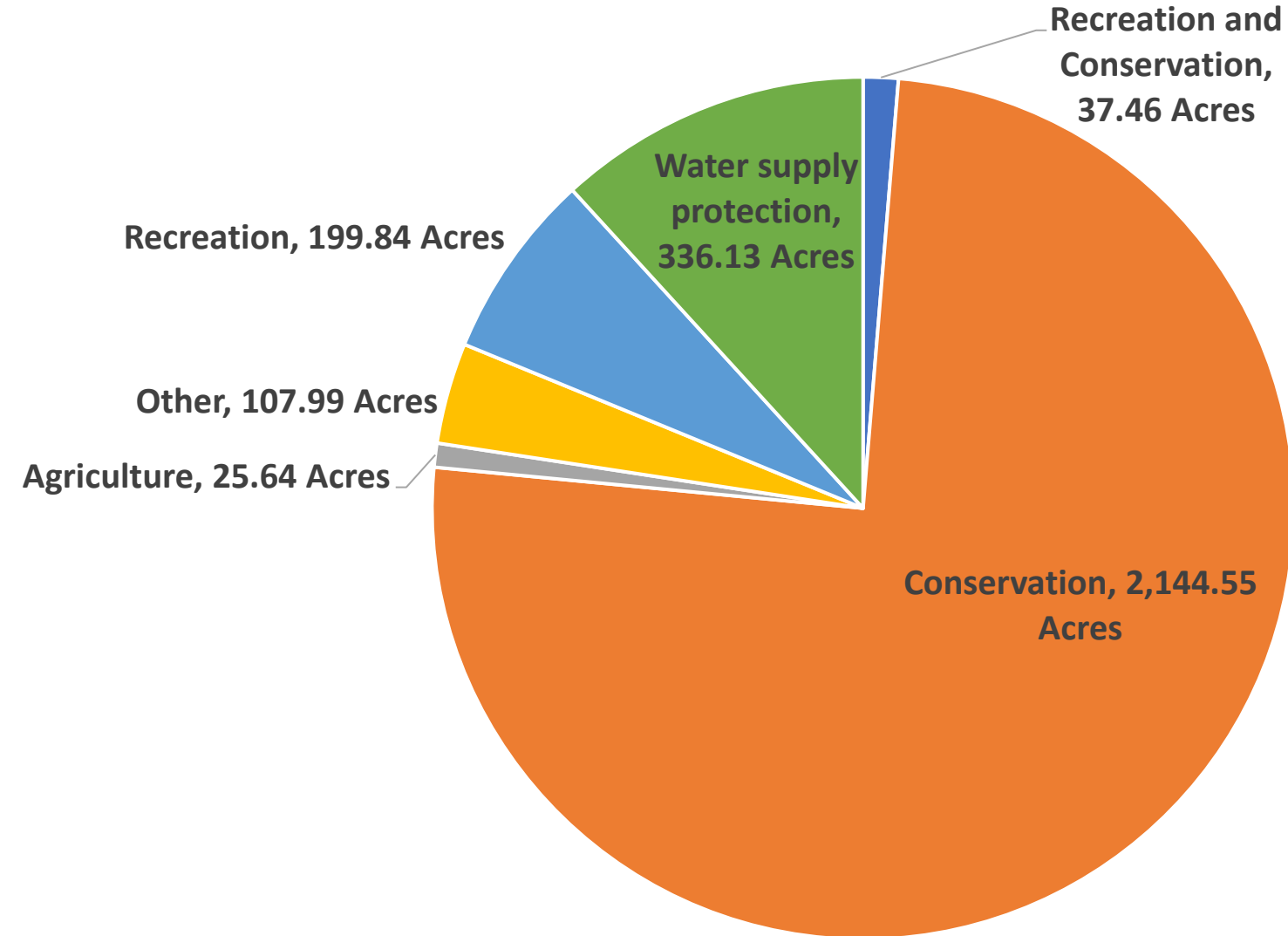
Quality of Life



Total Open Space Acres in Mansfield by Primary Purpose

What are Open Spaces?

Open spaces can be thought of as any undeveloped land areas that have the potential to be, or already are, used for conservation or recreation purposes. This land may be in the form of watershed protection areas, recreational land, conservation areas, agricultural lands, and other undeveloped, privately-held parcels.



■ Recreation and Conservation

■ Conservation

■ Agriculture

■ Other

■ Recreation

■ Water supply protection

Other = Tri County Beagle Club

Goals from Mansfield's 2016 Plan

Acquire more open space; promote and better manage existing open space areas for passive recreation. Work with various boards to allocate funding for land management and acquisition.

Acquire land to link smaller portions of conservation land thus providing longer hiking trails.

Improve and further protect water quality of Mansfield's water resources, including lands within the Canoe River Aquifer.

Establish an Open Space and Recreation Committee which is responsible for implementing the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Update existing and create new recreational areas and facilities including neighborhood playgrounds, indoor and outdoor playfields, swimming areas and a dog park.

OSRP Actions accomplished since 2016

Created the Open Space Committee in 2018, which holds monthly meetings.

\$25,000 allocated by Town Meeting in 2020 to address safety concerns on trails.

The creation of a \$5,000 annual budget for trail maintenance.

Various Open Space Property Acquisitions by Conservation Commission since 2016.

Located trails in Mansfield to produce publicly available trail maps, coming 2024.

The Canoe River Aquifer Resilience Project identified priority projects for implementation.

Today's Workshop

- What are your open space and recreation priorities?
- Where do you have any of the following needs?



New Recreation Amenity Need



Maintenance / Beautification Need



Recreational Programming Need



Pathway Need - Bicycle



Pathway Need - Pedestrian



ADA Access Need



Open Space / Resource Conservation Need



Cultural / Historic Resource Need

Prompts

Where do we need more pedestrian / bike paths or trails?

Does Mansfield need more recreational facilities or individual activities (or both)? Are certain age groups or cultural interests limited from accessing desired recreational activities? What are those barriers to participation?

Are there any vacant or sensitive natural areas in your neighborhood that might make a good future park?

Participation extends beyond this workshop!

Visit the project webpage and join
our mailing list:

www.srpedd.org/mansfield-osrp



Access the online survey to share
additional input and ideas:

www.bit.ly/mansfield-osrp-survey



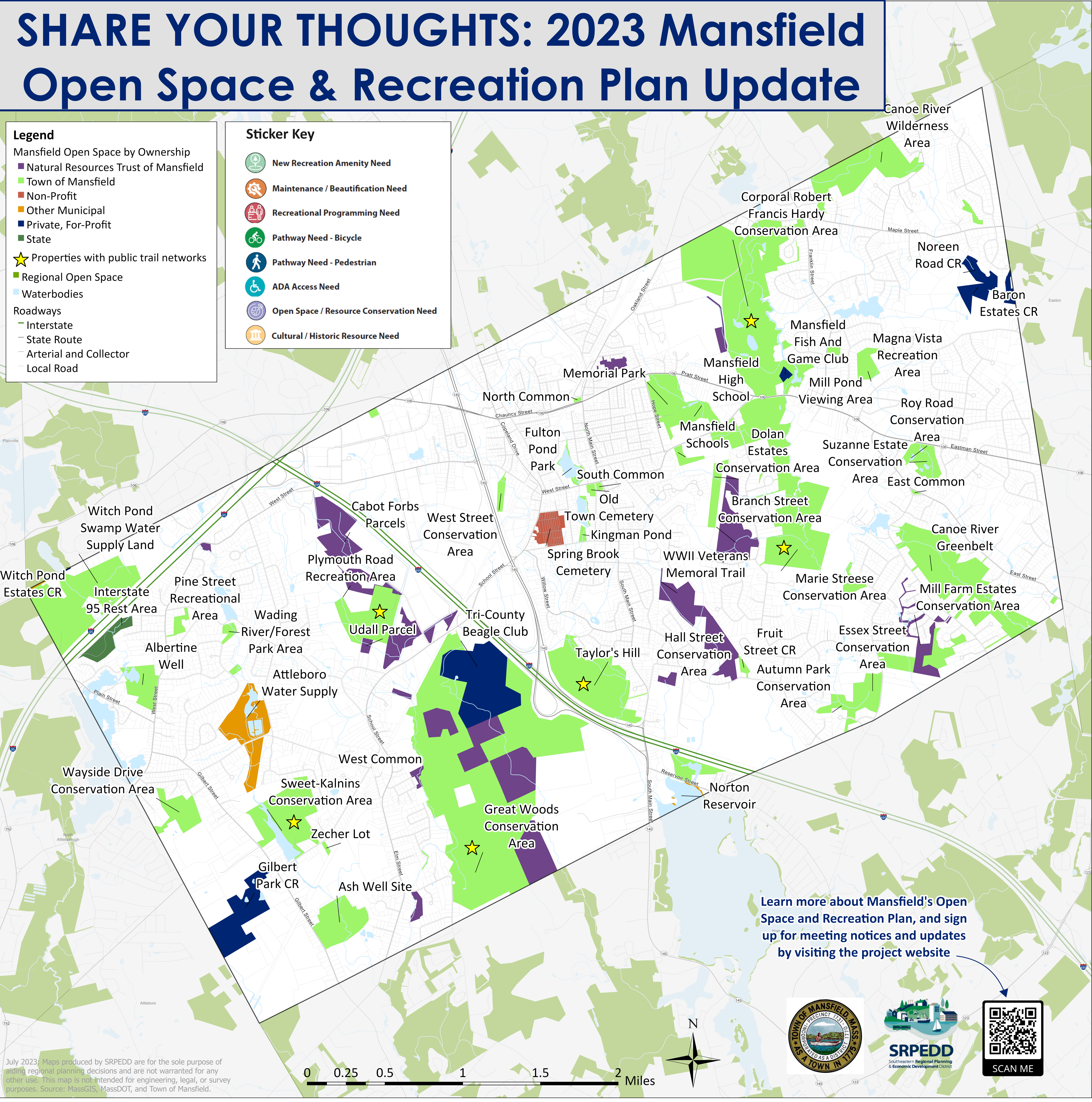
SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS: 2023 Mansfield Open Space & Recreation Plan Update

Legend

- Mansfield Open Space by Ownership
- Natural Resources Trust of Mansfield
 - Town of Mansfield
 - Non-Profit
 - Other Municipal
 - Private, For-Profit
 - State
- ★ Properties with public trail networks
- Regional Open Space
- Waterbodies
- Roadways
- Interstate
 - State Route
 - Arterial and Collector
 - Local Road

Sticker Key

- New Recreation Amenity Need
- Maintenance / Beautification Need
- Recreational Programming Need
- Pathway Need - Bicycle
- Pathway Need - Pedestrian
- ADA Access Need
- Open Space / Resource Conservation Need
- Cultural / Historic Resource Need



Mansfield Open Space and Recreation Plan Public Participation Map

Where would you like to see better public space maintenance? Where should the Town put a new park? A new bike trail?

The choice is in your hands!

DIRECTIONS

1. Pick a sticker (check the sticker key to the left for categories).
2. Place the sticker on the map in the location you'd like to see an improvement.
3. Number your sticker and write the corresponding number in the space here along with your comment.

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Mansfield Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Trails Map

